

## DESCRIPTION OF A NEW ROCK-FISH OF THE GENUS SEBASTODES FROM CALIFORNIA.

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In connection with our recent studies of the fish fauna of Alaska and the geographic distribution of the species of fishes known to occur in the waters of that district, we examined and studied many specimens in various collections from the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California.

Among those from the California coast we find a species of *Sebastes* which appears to us to be new. The description of the type is here given, together with a drawing by Mr. A. H. Baldwin.

**SEBASTODES ALEXANDRI** Evermann and Goldsborough, new species.

Head 2.55 in body; depth 2.8; eye 4 in head; snout 4; maxillary 2.1; mandible 1.9; interorbital 1.5 in eye, 5.75 in head; D. XIII. 9<sup>+</sup>; A. III, 7; pores in lateral line about 52; gillrakers 8+17, rather short, 2.2 in eye, toothed, the end one a mere tubercle.

Mouth large, slightly oblique; maxillary extending to posterior edge of pupil; mandible scarcely projecting, without symphyseal knob, not fitting into notch in upper jaw; armature of head strong; nasal, preocular, postocular, parietal, tympanic, and coronal spines present, the ridges all rather strong; interorbital slightly convex in the center with a slight depression just inside of each supraocular ridge; preorbital with 2 broad, blunt points; 2 humeral spines, one at upper end of opercle and one large curved one at lower end; preopercle with 5 rather strong backwardly directed spines, the second and third from the top strongest; opercles, cheek, premaxillary, and top of head closely scaled; no scales on maxillary or mandible; dorsal with a considerable notch, the twelfth spine a little greater than half length of longest, which is 2.5 in head; ventrals reaching vent; pectoral reaching tips of ventrals; small accessory scales on membranes of dorsal, anal, and

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<sup>a</sup> Mutilated.

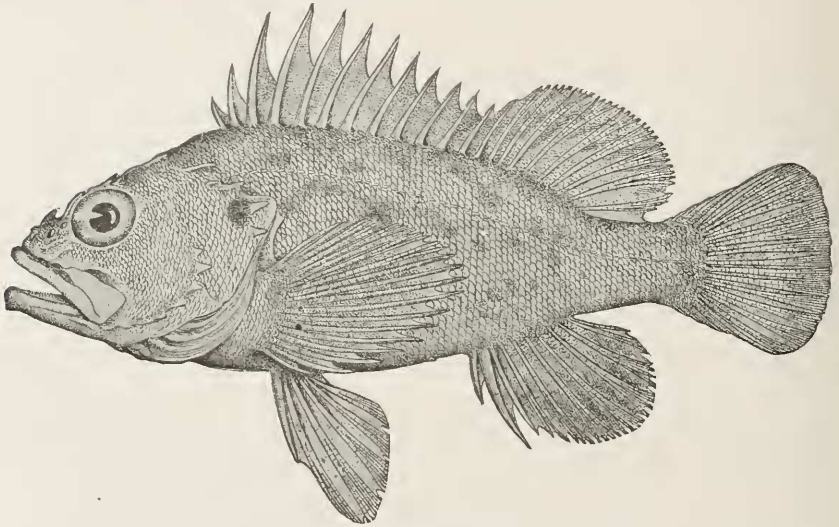
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caudal fins, also on base of pectoral; second anal spine strong, curved, longer than third; inside of mouth and gill-covers pale; peritoneum silvery.

Color in alcohol, dirty yellowish; some evidence of black spots or blotches along back; a black opercular spot.

The presence of only 9 dorsal rays is doubtless due to an injury which the fish had received early in life; the upper edge of caudal peduncle and the region immediately in front apparently has been bitten or mutilated in some way.

This species appears to be related to *S. atrovirens*, from which it differs, however, in the convexity of the interorbital space, shorter



SEBASTODES ALEXANDRI.

body, the less projecting lower jaw, the smaller eye, the weaker pre-orbital spines, the longer gillrakers, and the absence of scales on the mandible and maxillary.

Described from a single specimen  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches long (type, Cat. No. 55662 U.S.N.M.), collected by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries steamer *Albatross* March 13, 1890, at station 3125 in 65 fathoms in Monterey Bay, California.

We take pleasure in naming this species for Mr. A. B. Alexander, assistant in charge division of statistics and methods of the fisheries, Bureau of Fisheries, in recognition of his long and valuable services as fishery expert on the steamer *Albatross*.